

Customer No. 25280

MAR 05 2007

Case No. 5113A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Higgins et al.
Serial Number: 09/910,085
Filed: July 20, 2001
For: TEXTILE PRODUCT AND METHOD
Group Art Unit: 1771
Examiner: Juska, Cheryl Ann

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner of Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on October 3, 2006, Applicants respectfully traverse and request reconsideration of the non-final rejection of the pending claims on the grounds that as claimed a "preformed rebond foam sheet" is not a mere method limitation in an article claim. A preformed rebond foam sheet, like rebond foam sheet 178 of at least selected embodiments of FIGS. 2 – 5A and 30 of the drawings of the present application, needs to be bonded or attached to adjacent layers in the carpet tile structure. For example, an adhesive layer is used to bond the preformed rebond foam sheet to the underside of the primary carpet fabric. Claim 1 of the present application calls for at least one layer of adhesive material in contacting bonding relation to the rebond foam.